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Message Text

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ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 COME-00 SP-02 USIA-06 AID-05
NSC-05 CIEP-01 TRSE-00 SS-15 STR-04 OMB-01 CEA-01
CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 /067 W
----------281546Z 011137 /44
R 281445Z DEC 76
FM AMEMBASSY WARSAW
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5761
INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

C O N F I D E N T I A L WARSAW 9198

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: EGEN, ETRD, UK, PL
SUBJECT: VISIT OF JAROSZEWICZ TO UK

REF: LONDON 20686

1. THE PROBLEM OF STATISTICS CITED IN REF IS ONE WHICH BESETS POLAND'S TRADE DISCUSSIONS WITH ALL ITS WESTERN TRADING PARTNERS. POLISH TRADE STATISTICS REPORTEDLY ARE TAKEN FROM PAYMENTS DATA PRODUCED BY THE BANK HANDLOWY, POLAND'S FOREIGN TRADE BANK. THESE DATA SHOW THE COUNTRY OF ORIGIN OF AN IMPORT AS BEING THE COUNTRY TO WHICH PAYMENT FOR THE IMPORT WAS MADE OR IS OWED, WHETHER THE RECIPIENT OF THE PAYMENT IS THE PRODUCER OF THE GOODS OR MERELY A TRADING COMPANY. THIS STATISTICAL SYSTEM RESULTS FOR EXAMPLE, IN SWITZERLAND AND THE NETHERLANDS SHOWING UP IN POLISH STATISTICS AS MAJOR SOURCES OF GRAIN IMPORTS AND BELGIUM, SWITZERLAND AND THE UK AS MAJOR SOURCES OF CRUDE OIL. POLISH OFFICIALS ARE AWARE OF THESE STATISTICAL DISCREPANCIES, BUT DO NOT DRAW ATTENTION TO THEM SO AS NOT TO REDUCE THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE NEGATIVE TRADE BALANCES AS BARGAINING DEVICES WITH WESTERN PARTNERS.

2. THE FAILURE OF THE POLES TO PUT MUCH PRESSURE
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ON THE BRITISH TO REDRESS THEIR TRADE BALANCE MAY MEAN THE GOP HAS BEEN INFLUENCED BY A CAMPAIGN THE BRITISH EMBASSY HAS BEEN WAGING HERE FOR SOME MONTHS. THE CAMPAIGN IS DESIGNED TO CONVINCE THE POLES THAT IT IS IN THEIR INTEREST TO EXPORT TO THE COUNTRIES WITH APPRECIATING CURRENCIES AND IMPORT FROM THOSE

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WITH DEPRECIATING CURRENCIES. SINCE ALMOST ALL POLISH TRADE WITH THE WEST IS CONDUCTED IN THE CURRENCY OF THE WESTERN PARTNER, AND MUCH OF IT INVOLVES FINANCING OF 12 MONTHS OR MORE, THERE IS SOME MERIT TO THE BRITISH ARGUMENT.

3. NOT INCIDENTALLY, WE VERY MUCH APPRECIATE EMBASSY LONDON'S EXCELLENT RUNDOWN ON JAROSZEWICZ'S VISIT.
BROWN

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Message Attributes

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Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
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